

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Erich HARSCH *et al.*) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
)
Serial No. 09/) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)
Filed: January 24, 2001)
)
For: FLEXIBLE TRANSPORTING)
APPARATUS FOR PRESSES)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6-9 and 11-13.

6. Claim 6, line 1, change "one or more", to – any one --.

7. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that the circle segment (24) can be pivoted, via rod (23) and spindle/nut system (20), by drive (18).

8. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that drive (18) and/or drive (19) are/is connected to transporting apparatus (2) via spline shaft (14).

9. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of

claims 1-5, characterized in that spline shaft (14) can be displaced horizontally in transporting apparatus (2).

11. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of claims 1-5 or 10, characterized in that, following disengagement of crossmember (5), drive (18) and/or drive (19) are/is connected to transporting apparatus (2) via spline shaft (14), universal joint (15) and bearing block (17).

12. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of claims 1-5 or 10, characterized in that sucker crossmember (13), slide (27), linear guide (28), rod (29) can be fitted on both sides of crossmember (5) and can be driven jointly via spindle/nut system (21) and drive (19).

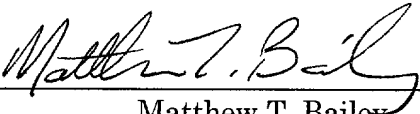
13. (Amended) Apparatus according to [one or more of the preceding claims] any one of claims 1-5 or 10, characterized in that sucker crossmember (13), circle segment (24), guides (26), rod (23) can be fitted on both sides of crossmember (5) and can be driven jointly via spindle/nut system (20) and drive (18).

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to put claims 6-9 and 11-13 in proper format. No new matter is being introduced by this amendment and is respectfully requested that the above amendment be examined on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 24, 2001

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